Establishment of industries in the country

2474. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the targets fixed for the establishing of various industries in the country particularly in the State of Assam during the Tenth Five Year Plan, State-wise; and

(b) the details of measures being taken by Government to achieve the said targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Establishment of industries in various States/Union Territories is the primary responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, the Central Government supplements their efforts for the development of industries.

The Government have announced a New Industrial Policy and other concessions for the North-Eastern region including the State of Assam on 24th December, 1997. The Industrial Policy for the region aims at attracting investors by giving them the following incentives/concessions/subsidies:—

(i) Excise and Income Tax exemptions for a period of 10 years.

(ii) Subsidies such as Transport Subsidy, Capital Investment Subsidy, Central Interest Subsidy and premium for Comprehensive Insurance Scheme.

(iii) Promoting infrastructure development through schemes like Growth Centre of Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion and Integrated Infrastructure Development Centre (IIDC) of Ministry of Small Scale Industry.

(iv) A financial institution namely, North Eastern Development Finance Corporation (NEDFC) has been established as a Special Purpose Vehicle for development of the North-Eastern region and is the nodal agency for disbursement of subsidies in the region.

Under the North East Industrial Policy Package, there is no provision for direct investment by Government for industrial activities. However, the Government provides facilities/incentives to encourage private entrepreneurs to set up industries and therefore the initiative for setting up of industries. rests entirely with the private entrepreneurs.

Indian view on multilateral environment agreement

2475. DR. M.N. DAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a submission to the WTO Committee on Trade and Environment, India has pointed out that the term multilateral environment agreement contained in the Doha declaration should only include agreements negotiated under the aegis of the United National or specialized agencies like the United Nations Environment Programme;

(b) if so, whether India has turned down Japan's definition of Environment Pact;

(c) if so, what were the main reasons for turn down of Japan's definition of Environment Pact; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Japan in its submission to WTO Committee on Trade and Environment Special Session dated 3rd October, 2002 submitted that the scope of mandate for negotiations under paragraph 31(i) of Doha Ministerial Declaration should include an MEA open to any country sharing the environmental objective of the agreement and developed and agreed, taking into account works including those under the aegis of the UN or its specialized agencies and with the participation of a substantial number of the countries, reflects the interests of major Parties with substantial trade interest, actual and potential major producers and consumers of materials concerned.